

AUSBORNE

USER GROUP

Volume 1. Number 5 JUN-JUL





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COMMITTEE REPORT

I'll keep it brief and to the point to leave room for more usefull stuff. The main thing to report is that we're looking at setting up an Osborne bulletin board. O.C.C. have offered the Osborne and a 12 Mb hard disk. This will be heaps of room for the disk library, and those fortunate people with communications will have ready access. For those less fortunate (including myself), there is an opportunity to win your own software and hardware. Included in this issue is a entry into our guessing competition, and for \$2.00 a ticket you have a chance to win THE MICRO LINK and a SENDATA ACOUSTIC COUPLER. Prizes have been supplied (at an attractive price) from the Osborne Computer Corp. The winner will be drawn at our September meeting. If I may now quote some gumpf about the prizes:

THE MICRO LINK Rec Retail \$114.00

The Micro Link communicates with information services and terminals as well as other microcomputers. With this program, you conduct keyboard conversations, send and recieve electronic mail, and exchange text, spreadsheet, data or program files. You simply dial up an information utility and save all or selected parts of a transmission on your Osborne diskette. After processing the information, you submit it to a colleagues computer by sending the new file through the Micro Link....

CUSTOMISED SENDATA ACOUSTIC COUPLER Rec Retail \$424.00

The Osborne Acoustic coupler is 300 baud origin answer full duplex. So what!! Well this coupler has been re-engineered so that it can plug directly into the modem port on the Osborne 1. The data signal levels and polarity are compatible with the modem port which is not RS232, and the coupler draws its power supply from the computer.

A curly (telephone) cable connects the coupler to the computer. Simple as that!! No power supply, no adapter cable required. Use the Micro Link software package for telecommunications with Midas, the Source, Mainframes etc.

SEE BACK PAGE FOR ENTRY COUPON

BUY AS MANY AS YOU LIKE
 DRAWN AT SEPTEMBER MEETING

IRONING OUT DISK PROBLEMS

The award for original thinking this month goes to our noble Secretary, Iain MacCulloch. On recieving a floppy in our Box at the Post Office, Iain noticed that to fit it in, the inspired mailman folded the disk not once, but twice!!!!!! Iain to the rescue with his Sunbeam iron quickly restored the disk to some semblance of flatness. His procedure is as follows:

1. Take one folded floppy, and push flattish by hand.
2. Place a piece of paper over the floppy (After all, you don't want it damaged).
3. Turn the steam OFF
4. Iron the floppy with a moderate heat.
5. Give the disk to someone else quickly

THE PROBLEM IS THAT THE DISK WORKED!!!!!!

MILTON'S REVENGE (Milton's the editor)

If you use a " monitor, you should not have had any problems reading the last issue of the news letter. However, we have increased the print size this time for those people accustomed to external video's IAN NAPIER

NEXT ISSUE

SOME OF THE THINGS WE COULDN'T GET IN THIS ISSUE

TALKING TO OTHER COMPUTERS Cont...
 OPEN FILE
 WORDSTAR SETUP - More ideas
 KEYBOARD MODIFICATIONS
 FAULTY SWITCHES ? Replacing them
 BOOK REVIEW - Doing business with Supercalc
 PROGRAMMES FOR YOU TO RUN
 and if there is room - MORE MORE

NEW ADVERTISING RATES

Single issue rate

SIZE		* RATE (\$)
A3	1	50.00
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1/2 Page	1	22.00
1/4 Page	1	15.00
1/8 Page	1	10.00
* B & W only - COLOR +		30.00
Bromides A4.	8.00
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MULTI ISSUE RATE

NUMBER	%	NUMBER	%
2 issues	15	6 issues	15
4 issues	10	12 issues	20

DEADLINE

Deadline for any issue is now the the monthly meeting dates. Material can be handed to the editor at any meeting but should be on disk if longer that a short letter. There's not enough time in the month now.

Milton

=====

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

=====

It is with great pleasure that I tap out this article. Since late 1982, I have been trying to establish this group, and on Wednesday, 22nd June it became a reality. THE FIRST annual general meeting!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

Firstly I would like it publicly known my gratitude to the "interim" committee members. They have indeed done a lot of work, which is not transparent on the surface, which is an indication of quality as well as quantity.

At the meeting, the draft constitution was accepted, a copy of which is available on disk. (sorry folks, we'll have to charge the old \$6.00 to cover costs.. see below for details)

Your new committee, which also happens to be the old committee, was not elected as there were less nominations than positions on the committee. The committee is:

President	Ian Napier	
Secretary	Iain Macculloch	
Treasurer	Brian Carney	
Librarian	Greg Seeke	
Librarian	Trevor Bird	(Hard copy library)
Resident		
Expert	Greg Stringer	
Editor	Milton Worthington	

Two or three others will be co-opted to serve on the committee, having expressed that interest.

The bad news is the fees. Firstly let it be understood that all those Members who joined prior to 22/6/83 are financial Members up to June, 1984. However, we have had to put the Annual Subs up to \$25.00 per annum. Any new Members will now pay this plus the new joining fee of \$10.00. WHY?

WELL.. The initial subs of \$20 was established from a "gut feel" approach some months ago. Now having run the group for several months, we know exactly how much it does cost, and that was more than \$20 p.a. The joining fee also covers costs, such as postage, and our new INTRODUCTORY DISK. Each new Member will be sent this disk which not only has the Constitution, but the library listing. Current Members (as I said before) may purchase this disk for \$6.00. This will overcome a few problems we have had in notifying people that they are Members, and requests for the library listing.

All these matters were placed as motions at the A.G.M., and passed unanimously.

For your information, our membership is now in excess of 170, and still growing.

Financial statements will be published in the next newsletter.

Ian Napier

=====

WORDSTAR FUNCTION KEYS

=====

Steve Townsend

Greg Stringer gave a very informative talk on Wordstar at the April Ausborne User Group meeting. By the time he was halfway through the part about function keys I was kicking myself. They're fantastic! Why hadn't I been making use of them before?

Up until then, I had only used two of them. This was to mark out bold print for my C-Itch F-10 printer (which requires four keystrokes to open and four to close the bold print instruction). I hadn't extended my use of them largely because I hadn't realised how much time they would save. Also, I had vaguely thought that it would be confusing trying to remember which of the ten numeral keys referred to which function. Of course, Greg pointed out that it's simple to remember which is which if you always call them up

CONTINUED PAGE 10



WHEN?

WHICH ONE-HOW MUCH

Well the news is out, both "OMNI" and "A.P.C.", have reports on Osborne's newest entry into the portable computer market.

Called the "EXECUTIVE" & "EXECUTIVE II", they do not look very different from your current Osborne on the outside but inside is quite another story.

The first changes you see is the enlarged amber screen, expanded to 175 mm (7") diagonally, what is not clear about the new screen is its ability to handle 24 lines and 80 characters wide as well as inverse video, thus giving programmes like supercal the ability to use this feature rather than the "DIM" headers as now. Both disk drives on the left side, slim line and storing 200Kb (14Kb more than the Os-1) while opposite there's a circular opening where the fan (or atleast it's intake) for cooling has been placed.

The keyboard externally is still the same as the as the blue case units but we understand all the keys are programmable but this is yet to be confirmed.

Gone is the right disk storage pocket and the need to fiddle around at the back of the unit to find the off switch, it is now right up front where it should be. But the Executive still only weighs in at 12.712 Kg (28Lbs) the same as the Osborne 1.

Inside there are changes too. The memory has increased in size to 128Kb and an increased in disk storage capacity to name a few.

Software has also be upgraded. CP/M has been replaced by CP/M Plus, Wordstar is now version 3.0 U.S.C.D., Pascal and Personal Pearl have also been included but dBASE II has gone, being replaced by a system adapted from a minicomputer.

The Digital utilities package has been replaced by Microsoft's and expanded to include an assembler able to compile Z80 as well as 8080 programme's.

The Executive II is a 16 Bit system with an 8088 co-processor. Disk drives storing ---Kb each and may have in addition to the software listed above Microsoft "Interface Manager or Viscorp's "VisiOn"

It will also be able to use all the IBM PC software, a real boost to it's flexibility. There is also something called "Automatic software frequency change" on the power supply? What ever that is, would someone like to enlighten us please?

So there you have it except for when, where and the price.

All being well, a limited number should arrive in mid to late September with full stocks in October. What we will be getting is also unknown. We may only get the "Executive II" here. Price? The US price is \$ 2495.00 & \$ 3200.00.

As more information becomes available we'll try to keep you informed.

4 brother®

HR-15

Compact Daisy Wheel Printer

SPECIFICATIONS

■ Printer HR-15

Interface	RS-232C serial, CENTRONICS Parallel
Print speed	13 CPS
Print wheel	96 characters/wheel, Cassette type (Easily changed by operator)
Print wheel life	10 million characters Min./wheel
Character/line	110 characters (1/10"), 132 characters (1/12"), 165 characters (1/15")
Paper width	13.5 inch (343 mm)
Copy capacity	Original (45 kg) + 4 copies (15 kg)
Carriage motion	Bi-directional: 10, 12, 15 positions/inch, Proportional spacing, Minimum increment 1/120 inch
Carriage return speed	1,250 ms Max.
Paper feed	Bi-directional, Friction platen
Paper feed speed	2.5 inches/second
Line spacing	6, 4, 3 positions/inch Minimum increment 1/48 inch
Ribbon	Cassette type: Single strike ribbon (60,000 char. Max.) Multi strike ribbon (150,000 char. Max.) Fabric ribbon (200,000 char. Max.) Correctable ribbon (70,000 char. Max.)
Control panel	Indicators: SELECT, POWER, ALARM, COPY, LINE, PITCH Switches: SELECT, LF, TOF, LINE, PITCH, COPY
Noise	Less than 65 d.B. A scale
Temperature	10°C to 40°C (operating)
Humidity	20% to 80% (operating, non-condensation)
Power	100, 115, 220, or 240 VAC, 50 & 60 Hz
Reliability	MTBF 2,500 HRS
Dimension	464 (W) x 166 (H) x 339 (D) mm

Specifications subject to change without notice.

OPTION

■ Tractor Feeder

Paper width	12 inch (305 mm)
Paper feed speed	2.5 inch/second

■ Auto-Cut Sheet Feeder

Paper width	A4 (Short side part) B5 (Long side part) length Automatic Paper Feed and Exhaust
Paper capacity	200 sheets
Paper feed speed	2.5 inch/second

■ Keyboard

Key	46 keys
Key form	Step Sculpture
Key touch	Tactile feeling
Roll over	2 key Roll over
Dimension	408(W) x 20.5(H) x 187 mm (D)
Weight	1.0 kg

FEATURES

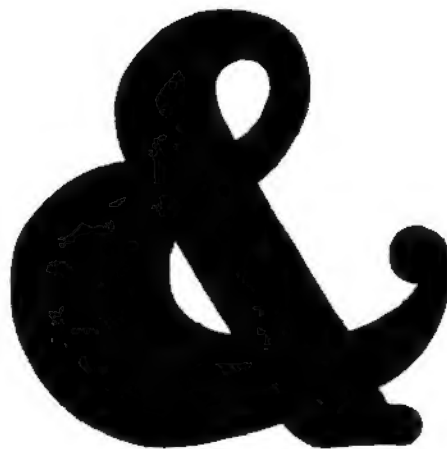
- Buffer . . . 3K byte
- Color printing
(Red and Black
color printing)
- Shadow printing
- Super/sub script
- Auto under scoring
- Carriage skip movement
- Proportional spacing
- Text reprinting
- Clear buffer





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MITÉ



BASE II

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29.4.83

Dear Sir, *

Please find attached a Wordstar "D" file with the article "BASIC/Z, WORTH THE PRICE?" which, I hope, may be of use for a forthcoming edition of AUS BORNE 1. To forestall any possible misunderstandings, I am strictly a user and have no financial stake in the propagation of BASIC/Z in any form.

Would you please return the disk to me at the next meeting of the Osborne User Group? Many thanks.

Yours sincerely, Fred Backer

ED: Many thanks Fred, it's included in this issue.

BASIC/Z, WORTH THE PRICE?

F.J.Backer

Compiling BASICs have been with us for quite a while. They are especially used in commercial applications. CBASIC, which comes with every Osborne, is one example. One main advantage of compiling BASICs is that they run very much faster than interpreter versions. Also you don't have to distribute your sourcecode to all users and you can easily configure them into a turnkey system by appropriately wording your AUTOST program. Your program then whizzes into action as soon as you load the disk and press RETURN.

I like to debug my programs in an interpretative mode and only compile them when I am sure they are running the way I intended. This is why I have never been too keen on CBASIC, it has many idiosyncrasies that are different from MBASIC and other popular BASIC dialects. CB/BO, hailed by some as the best thing since sliced bread, is much the same in this respect. The Microsoft people will gladly sell you an MBASIC compiler but it's price, and the number of disks involved, will make you gasp.

BASIC/Z, presented at the recent Sydney computer show and locally available from The Software Source seemed to provide a reasonable alternative and having worked with it now for several weeks I must say that from my point of view the features I like far outweigh the ones that I don't.

Most importantly the system worked first up and I have not found any bugs yet. Strictly speaking this should not rate a favourable mention but unfortunately these days it does. Apart from some peculiarities BASIC/Z has a lot in common with MBASIC and I found that I did not have to make too many changes before I could compile programs originally written in MBASIC, provided they had been saved in ASCII. Once compiled they ran like fury. All floating point math is done in BCD and you can specify the precision you want, from 6 to 18 digits. Such accuracy can be of help especially if you are involved in a lot of engineering design calculations.

BASIC/Z has a slew of other features including sophisticated string handling, built-in sort and search functions and video addressing which may or may not interest you depending on your application. Being a convert to structured programming I was pleased to be able to do not only WHILE...WEND but also DO...UNTIL loops.

The editor is a dream. I hate cryptic error messages and am sometimes given to violence when syntax errors crop up at runtime, especially after midnight. BASIC/Z signals any syntax errors as you first type in each line and obliquely puts a pointer underneath the line at precisely the spot where the error is located. Global search and change functions can make life easy, particularly when adapting programs written in another BASIC. Say you have been using the variable SMITH throughout a program and you want to change it to FOO%. On entering the appropriate search and change masks the editor will change them all for you, one by one, throughout the program.

BASIC/Z supports two ways of random file handling, formatted and unformatted. The formatted mode, peculiar to BASIC/Z, allows you to specify any record length so you can cram the maximum amount of information into your data disk. If you want to keep your data files compatible with other languages, however, you should stick to the more usual unformatted mode. You can insert an error trap

into the file opening statements to ward off the dreaded "BDOS error on B:" syndrome.

Now for the bad points or, if you like, the irritants. BASIC/Z will not let you declare your variables (DEFSTR, DEFINT etc.). Also because of its many special features there is a long list of reserved names and this can be a trap at first. BASIC/Z will not, for instance, accept my favourite variable name FALSE.

I still find it somewhat annoying that BASIC/Z does not use the PRINT USING command like just about any other BASIC. It does, of course, support formatted output, it just has its own unusual way of defining things. The manufacturers claim that their way is much better because you can do much more with it. I guess I will get used to it. The documentation is exhaustive and clearly written but it is strictly in form of a reference manual without any real examples. The manufacturers apparently assume that the reader is an experienced programmer and knows his or her BASIC backwards. Don't expect a tutorial.

Is BASIC/Z worth its \$490 price tag? For the occasional hacker perhaps not. If you are involved in a lot of serious programming, however, BASIC/Z may well be worth a serious look. fjb 830429

BEEP THE BEEPER

Bob Briggs

Looking through the FDS and CP/M disk libraries the other day I noticed an interesting program called "TEACH" that purported to teach morse code. The problem was that the programmer had never heard of the OSBORNE 1 and had not taught "TEACH" how to beep the OSBORNE beeper. Of course, beeping the beeper is quite mandatory for a morse code program.

Exploring things documented (like the schematics OSBORNE sent me) and the undocumented (like most of the OSBORNE BIOS), I found how to beep it, which is what this article is about.

The most obvious way to beep the beeper is to use the ASCII BELL character. This is done by hitting control 7 when you have the CP/M prompt, or by the statement PRINT CHR\$(7) in BASIC. However this isn't very satisfactory if you want to vary the length of the beep for the dots and dashes of morse code.

There are at least a couple of ways to control the duration of the beep when beeping the beeper. I'll demonstrate one way with a program written in MBASIC and another way with an assembly language routine.

As shown on sheet 5 of the schematics, the beeper (labeled audio alarm) is driven from bit 5 of port B of a 6821 peripheral interface adapter (PIA) chip. Also evident is that in addition to the beeper, this chip controls what is displayed on the screen and turns the two disk drive motors on and off. Also, the only way to talk to this chip is in shadow mode.

When BIOS (the CP/M Basic Input/Output System) sends data out to the screen, it checks EF62 hex in RAM to see whether the beeper and the disk drive motors should be on or off. Bit 5 controls the beeper, bit 6 drive A, and bit 7 drive B. Bits 0 through 4 apparently have something to do with the vertical position of the text on the screen (which line is on which row). The following BASIC program demonstrates control of the beeper by setting bit 5 on or off and then sending a character to the screen in order to output data via the PIA chip.

```
10 REM: PROGRAM TO BEEP THE BEEPER
20 INPUT "ENTER A NUMBER FROM 1 TO 5, THEN HIT CR":N
30 IF N>5 THEN 120: REM: EXIT IF N>5
40 FOR I=1 TO N:GOSUB 60:NEXT I: REM: BEEP N TIMES
50 GOTO 20: REM: LET'S DO IT AGAIN
60 POKE &HEF62,&H20: REM: BEEPER FLAG ON
70 PRINT I: REM: TURN ON BEEPER
80 FOR J=1 TO 250:NEXT J: REM: SETS BEEP DURATION
90 POKE &HEF62,0: REM: BEEPER FLAG OFF
100 PRINT:REM: MUST WRITE TO SCREEN TO AFFECT BEEPER
110 RETURN
120 PRINT:PRINT"EXIT IF >5":PRINT
130 END
```

CONTINUED PAGE 10



**A VERY SPECIAL LIMITED OFFER TO
 AUSBORNE MEMBERS**

In the next few weeks you will be able to gain access to the Osborne Bulletin Board and you'll be wanting a means of communicating with it. So why wait ? This special limited offer through the pages of your newsletter could take a load off you mind as well as your pocket.

What we have to offer it this. A number of "SENDATA" 300-1200 switch selectable acoustic couplers, with full warranty and instructions for \$ 250.00. You won't get a better price anywhere in Australia.

Please fill in the form below, write a cheque or get a money order and post it off as soon as you can. First in, first to get one of these brand new couplers. (No they did not fall off the back of a truck)

. SPECIAL OFFER ORDER FORM .	
NAME _____	
ADDRESS _____	POST CODE _____
TELEPHONE (___) ___ ___ Home. (___) ___ ___ Work.	
Please find enclosed my CHEQUE [] / MONEY ORDER [] for \$ 250.00 Tax Inc and \$ 5.00 for postage. I understand that if the "SENDATA" acoustic couplers are all sold I will receive my cheque back by return mail. I understand that you will do the best you can to fill my order.	
SIGNATURE. _____	
[Please make cheques/money orders payable to the "AUSBORNE User Group".]	

=====

OPEN FILE

=====

FROM: D. D Grant,
KILSYTH.VIC.3137.

Dear Sir,

Thank you for sending Volume 1, No.3 of the UG newsletter. With my application to join the UG, I include a request for a list of Victorian members. As I am sure you can appreciate, the usefulness of the UG to Victorian members would be enhanced if contact between them could be enabled and meetings arranged. I am personally prepared to assist with any official coordination of UG members in Victoria, including library coordination, and would be pleased if you would write to me on this matter.

In the newsletter I noted a reference to the "President" Double Density option. I purchased my Osborne second-hand, and at the time of purchase I did not know that more than one DD option existed. My machine would appear to have the "President" option, and as such I cannot read genuine Osborne DD disks. Likewise it does not have the ability to read "Cromemco" formatted disks, and I find this annoying and restricting, since I use a "Cromemco" at work. I would be pleased to know whether there is any "solution" other than having a genuine Osborne DD card installed.

=====

ANOTHER LETTER

=====

FROM: J Clark,
LINDFIELD.NSW.

Dear Sir,

I read with interest, an article in the May issue of "YOUR COMPUTER" in regard to changing the loading of CP/M so that the "AUTOST" program is stopped. The article seems to ignore the fact that there are two different BIOS programs issued for the OSBORNE 1 (actually more than two, but there are two main releases namely 1.3 & 1.4). The methods used in the magazine are not 100%, so I have submitted the correct methods.

1. Put CP/M Disk in Drive A.
- (This disk should include SYSGEN & DDT)
2. Boot the system & exit to CP/M.
3. Run SYSGEN. Answer 'A' to source, and RETURN to destination.
4. Enter 'SAVE 39 CPM.COM' to save the system to disk.
5. Enter 'DDT CPM.COM'.

Now is the important part!

For Single Density Systems (Vers. 1.3)

- Enter 'S2009' and RETURN
- 01 Enter value '00' and RETURN
- Enter '.' and RETURN
- The '.' prompt should now appear.
- Enter CTRL C to return to the 'A' prompt.
6. Enter 'SAVE 39 CPM2.COM'
 - (to save modified version to disk)
 7. Run 'SYSGEN', Answer RETURN to source and 'A' to destination.

For DD Systems, as above with one change. The address to be changed by the command 'S' is 201C so the command will be 'S201C'. Hope this will help some of the members of the group.

=====

THANK YOU

=====

Many thanks to John for this informative letter.
ED.

=====

CAN YOU HELP ?

=====

Is there a way around Doug's DD problem ?
Can you let him know how to have his Osborne read Cromemco formatted disks ?
Is there another user group already in operation in Victoria ?

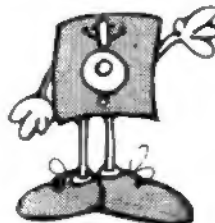
26th April, 1983.

Dear Sir,

My problem relates to the use of Supercalc. Most of my technical calculations are only sensibly reported to one decimal place. Can anyone advise me how to instruct Supercalc to do this?

Yours faithfully,

E.P. Pickering



Dear E.P.P.

Just a few things that might help you in future. There were a few anxious moments when your package arrived. You see we did not know until it was opened that there was a disk inside. Why? I hear you ask! Your padded bag was folded double, so was the disk.

When you receive the June issue of the newsletter you will see a section called "Ironing out disk problems" you will know who gave us the idea. THANK YOU.

NEXT: I am not sorry you took our suggestions re sending info in on disks to heart. We are happy to receive "SHORT" letters like your's on paper, it's just those persons who send in 10+ hand written (scribbled) pages. For all the trouble you have gone to, you will find some software from the library that you may find helpful.

AND AGAIN: On page 229 of "DOING BUSINESS WITH SUPERCALC" by Stanley R. Trost - Sybex \$19.95.

VALUES: Are numbers - either entered or computed. A value can contain a decimal point, positive or negative sign, or it can be entered in scientific notation. A value cannot contain a comma.

LEGAL VALUE ENTRIES:	ILLEGAL VALUE ENTRIES:
123	\$123
-123.2	123,456
1.23E2 (SCIENTIFIC NOTATION)	

"THE POWER OF SUPERCALC" \$13.95 Page 7-5

1:	RESULTANT FORCE
2:	
3:	F1= 15
4:	F2= 17
5:	a= 30
6:	R= 30.91412 (*)

These would seem to indicate that Supercalc is able to deal with more than one decimal point. It's all in the programming.

Eg: (*)

SQRT(((B3^2)+(B4^2))+(2*B3*B4(COS(B5/57.3))))

I have never had to deal with figures that would give more than two decimal places. (\$5.00) You will find some more informed information in the next few issues of the newsletter.

LASTLY: When you send disks in, please, please, pack the disk between two stiff sheets of cardboard and mark the pack:

"DO NOT X-RAY"
"DO NOT BEND"
"MAGNETIC MEDIA"

Etc, Etc, Etc.....or words to that effect:

Thank you again for writing to us, we hope you will continue to do just that if you have more problems, or solutions. The EDITOR.20 05 83.

This next routine, which must be located above 4000H to avoid THE SHADOW, turns on the beeper for a duration determined by the LXI B and LXI D instructions. The routine drives the PIA directly rather than going through CBIOS as in the MBASIC program above.

LABEL	INSTRUCTION	COMMENTS
BEEP	CALL 0EBC9H	;ENTER SHADOW MODE
LDA 2C02H	;GET PIA STATUS	
ORI 20H	;SET BIT 5	
STA 2C02H	;BELL ON	
LXI B,2	;SET DELAY LENGTH	
CALL DLY1	;WAIT	
LDA 2C02H	;GET PIA STATUS	
ANI 0DFH	;RESET BIT 5	
STA 2C02H	;BELL OFF	
CALL 0EBD7H	;LEAVE SHADOW MODE	
RET	;EXIT	
DLY1 LXI D,0	;DELAY SUBROUTINE	
DLY2 DCX D		
MOV A,D		
ORA A		
JNZ DLY2		
DCR C		
JNZ DLY1		
RET		

In my OSBORNE (MONITOR 1.2) the routines at EBC9 and EBD7 contain the code for entering and exiting shadow mode. If this is not true for your OSBORNE, you'll have to find them, or use the routines shown on page 8-2 of the OSBORNE 1 User's Guide (looseleaf version). Address 2C02 is Port B of the Video PIA (page 8-38 of User's Guide).

WORD COUNTING PROGRAM Steve Townsend

WORDNO is an MBASIC program to count the words in a WordStar file. I dug it out of an issue of the British magazine "Practical Computing". It's as slow as a wet week (about 90 secs per 1000 words) but a lot faster than doing it by hand. It's designed specifically for WordStar on an Osborne 1 so it handles control characters without any problems. It counts hyphenated words as one unless the hyphen is at the end of a line - in which case it counts it as two. Asterisks, ampersands, and other isolated symbols will be counted as words. It won't count the last word in a file unless it has been finished off with a <cr>.

```

100 ' WORDNO - A PROGRAM TO ESTIMATE WORDS
110 ' IN A WORDSTAR FILE.
120 ' C 1982 BY D.R.GREEN
130 ' P.O. BOX 50973, NAIROBI, KENYA
140 DEFINT A-Z
150 N = 0 'SET COUNT TO ZERO
160 LINE INPUT "WHAT IS THE FILENAME?"
    'FILENAME$
170 OPEN "I",1,FILENAME$
180 FLAG = 0 'MARKS A "NON-SPACE" CHARACTER
190 WHILE NOT EOF(1)
200 ' REMOVE HIGH BIT FROM CHARACTER ON INPUT
210 CHAR = ASC(INPUT$(1,1)) AND 127
220 IF CHAR > 32 THEN FLAG = 1 ELSE IF (CHAR =
32 OR CHAR = 13) AND FLAG THEN
    N = N+1 : FLAG = 0
230 WEND
240 '*****FINISH HERE ON EOF *****
250 PRINT:PRINT "THERE ARE":N;"WORDS"
260 CLOSE
270 END

```

How to use it:

1. You can write it up using your MBASIC disc but it's probably easier to do it as a non-document WordStar file. That is, type "N" from the no-file menu - if you wrote it up as a "D" file it would have all sorts of word wraps, soft returns, etc thrown into it. Call the file "WORDNO.BAS".
2. The above listing has line breaks in it so it can fit into the column format of this magazine. Ignore them. The only time you put in a <cr> is when you've completely finished the line and due to start a new line number.
3. After you've written it in and saved it, press the reset button, take your WordStar disc out of A drive and boot up your MBASIC disc.
4. When it gives you the "ok" message type in:

LOAD "B:WORDNO.BAS

When you get "ok" again, type: RUN

You will then be asked, "WHAT IS THE FILENAME?".

5. Take out the disc in B drive from which you loaded WORDNO.BAS and insert the disc containing the file you want counted. Enter the name of the file (preceded by "B:", of course) and hit <cr>.
6. Go and make a cup of coffee. By the time you get back, the count will be displayed on the screen. If you want to count other files, just type in RUN and go through the same procedure again.

GUESSING GAME	
10 LET R=INT(100*RND)	150 PRINT "You took "Y+1" goes to get it."
20 LET Y=0	160 PRINT "Do you want to go again?"
30 PRINT "A random number has been chosen"	170 PRINT "Yes = 1, No = 0."
40 PRINT "Try guessing it. A hint: the number"	180 INPUT L
50 PRINT "is between 1 and 100"	190 IF L=1 THEN 210
60 PRINT "GOOD LUCK - You'll need it."	200 STOP
70 PRINT	210 PRINT
80 PRINT "What is your GUESS?"	220 GOTO 10
90 INPUT X	230 PRINT "Too HIGH, try again."
100 LET Y=Y+1	240 GOTO 80
110 IF X=R THEN 140	250 PRINT "Too LOW, try again."
120 IF X>R THEN 230	260 GOTO 80
130 GOTO 250	270 END
140 PRINT "Not bad !!! You got it !!!"	

WORDSTAR FUNCTION KEYS cont

Steve Townsend

with the numeric key-pad. The layout of the key-pad is far more amenable to mnemonics than the row along the top of the keyboard.

Here's how I've set mine up:

Once you have entered the file you are going to edit, this key sets up the right margin (at 50), sets the help level at 2, and turns Justification and Hyphen Help to OFF.

It is ^OR50^JH2^DJ^OH

1 This key takes you from boot over to B: drive and asks you what document file you want edited. It will also work if you're logged onto B: and using a program such as XDIR and want to return to WordStar on A:.

It is A:WSLB:D

2 This key gives automatic scroll downwards. You can vary the speed by entering numbers: 1 is fast, 9 is slow. Stop scrolling by pressing space bar. It is ^QZ

3 This key saves the file, exits to no-file menu, selects print function and enters the name of the file. It is ^KDP^R

4 This key takes cursor to left of page. It is ^QS

5 This key is for routine security save. It saves to disc then returns you to original position. It is ^KS^QP

6 This key moves cursor to far right. It is ^QD

7 Starts bold print for a C. Itch F-10 (After carrying out some INSTALL changes to WordStar). It is ^PCW

8 Scrolls up - opposite of key No.3. It is ^QW

9 Ends bold print for C. Itch F-10. It is ^PQ&

How to set it up

Setting up is quite easy. It's explained quite well in the manual (page 41 of blue covered edition). Just follow the instructions for using the SETUP program on your CP/M system disc.

These function key arrangements are very idiosyncratic and you'll probably find a slightly different system that suits you much better than mine. In particular, unless you have a C. Itch F-10 printer, you won't want to use the same arrangement I have for keys 7 and 9.

However you do it, pay attention to having a logical layout on your keypad. In this one of mine, keys 2, 4, 6, 8 form a diamond for the directions in which they move the cursor. Key 5 is in the middle because it's one I use when I'm in the middle of working on a file. Etc.

In case you're a real novice, to call up the function of each key you hold down the control key (^) and press the number key - then sit back and watch it do all the work for you. By the way, after you press ^3 (or any time you're ready to print) you can simply press the ESC key and it will start printing according to the default values. It's much better than pecking away at <cr> all the time - providing you aren't going to alter the default values.

If undeliverable,

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